



Facebook Town Hall FAQ - Nov. 2014

Q: after picking up my kid from Youth Services it's hard to get back on to Reese Rd from Erie Pyle Rd to leave the base during the rush hour 4-6 time; what can be done?

A: There is no quick fix to this issue. Currently, everyone has to remain courteous and patient. There are ongoing initiatives to improve traffic flow. There is a traffic study underway. It should be completed within six months.

Q: Can housing please start winterizing our homes? I'm an end unit and paying Minol too much money while my house's thermostat is set to 66 degrees and my husband and I are at work 4 or 5 weekdays so we aren't using a lot of electricity.

A: Please contact your community office to schedule an energy assessment for your home. Find your manager at Meade.CorviasMilitaryLiving.com/contact-us

Q: most posts that have 24/7 ops tend to have extended gym hours. Why are this installation's gym hours so restrictive?

A: As part of the Healthy Base Initiative (HBI) project, Fort Meade has an initiative to develop a 24/7 fitness facility. It will be located at Murphy Field House. Funding is identified and the project is being submitted to contracting.

Q: When an enlisted service member is promoted beyond the limits of their current on base neighborhood, many have been advised to move to another base neighborhood. Is Corvias responsible for the associated costs? Answers vary depending on who is asked.

A: When a service member chooses to move because of promotion it is a voluntary move and not a paid move. The resident may also choose to stay in place unless there is an authorized move base on PCS.

Q: I have lived here for only a few months but realized that after a certain hour the light on Mapes and Cooper turns to a blinking light. Is this possible to do on all the other lights especially the light on Reese and MacArthur?

A: Since Reese and MacArthur is a high traffic area with shopping, residential and pedestrian traffic. It is highly unlikely that a flashing light would work. However, there is an ongoing traffic study that is evaluating overall traffic flow. We are looking for long-term solutions to provide better traffic flow and to mitigate congestion.

Q: What is being done about the power outages, specifically in Midway Commons? Over the summer we went several hours at a time without power, sometimes not even during a storm. Already this season we've gone 8+ hours without power. It seems every time the wind blows we're without power until they re-repair the aging equipment.

A: There is a long-term plan to replace the utility infrastructure in Midway Common. The work will begin in the spring. In the meantime, the DPW team will continue to make repairs as needed. Furthermore, Corvias will begin to identify and trim limbs that may affect power lines.



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Q: Residents of Potomac Place, specifically along 2nd Army Dr., continue to leave trash cans along the street all week long. This is such an eyesore and makes the community look terrible. Is there any way to enforce the proper storage of the trashcans?

A: It is Corvias policy that all residents remove trash cans by 6 p.m. Corvias will remind all residents of the policy.

Q: When can we anticipate Ft. Meade to follow the same steps Ft. Jackson is doing in regards to security and requiring background checks for civilians? Currently only a driver's license is required which is still shocking to me as every other base I've been to required military id. Security on this base is mediocre at best and many of us don't feel safe like we should.

A: The security measures and background check procedure that are in place vary from state to state. Most involve coordination with the motor vehicle departments, which have different credential requirements.

Q: We've lived here for 8 months and still haven't received anything from the Live Army Green program. How do we get involved?

A: Not all homes are part of the program at this time. Please call your community office for more information. See www.Meade.CorviasMilitaryLiving.com/contact-us for your local manager.

Q: I rec my answer to post light needs, however, unless I review this blog and unless I am provided this information upon in processing how is someone to know where and the number to call. Is there a place on the Fort Meade Facebook page where I can find this and important information in a hurry?

A: Please go to the Fort Meade homepage, there is a tab that lists important information. You may also come by the Fort Meade Public Affairs office to get a guidebook, which has all phone numbers and addresses for offices, services and facilities.

Q: What is being done to assist the active duty military to acquire medical appointments with their PCM or even a PCM on FT Meade sooner than a month since there no longer sick call hours?

A: For patients enrolled to Kimbrough, staffing adjustments are being made to better match appointment supply with patient demand. Improvement should already be noticeable, but will further improve over the next two months.

Q: The power goes out here very often. We are fairly used to that but as it gets very cold here (and we are NOT used to the cold) what are we advised to do if the power is out then?

A: If the neighborhood center is open, you can use your key fob 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. During emergencies the installation and housing will work together to open warming centers when necessary.



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Q: Is it possible to have a splash park added so families can let small children run and play in the water. The pool isn't always the best option for kids under 3.

A: Unfortunately the severe budget reductions impacting our Army now and in the near future are limiting our ability to build new recreation facilities on the installation. We are focusing limited resources on sustaining existing facilities and critical improvements in our infrastructure. But we'll keep this great idea for the future when funds are available!

Q: There are at least nine lights on the English Avenue side of the parade field that need to have bulbs replaced and at least two on the Cooper side. (Some of the lights flicker on and off all night.) Many people walk or run around the parade field even after sundown. It is dangerous to have so many lights not working.

A: DPW is aware that many of the lights are out, and many have been scheduled for repair. Please continue to use 301-677-1661 to report lighting outages.

Q: Is DPW or Corvias in charge of maintaining the streetlights? I've reported that at least half of the ones near the NSA side of Midway Commons are out, but nothing has been done.

A: Please go to www.Meade.CorviasMilitaryLiving.com/contact-us to report outages in your housing area. DPW is responsible for the rest. Please call 301-677-1661 to report other outages. They will be scheduled for repair. BG&E is the repair agent.

Q: Is it possible to convince Corvias to add programmable thermostats into all base housing? I want to do more to reduce energy consumption and I think that would help. Also, can we make it standard for them to willingly replace air filters more often? It seems strange that in the year I've been in housing they've only replaced them once.

A: Please call your local community office for more information about a programmable thermostat. Additionally, Corvias changes the air filters twice a year as part of the preventative maintenance. Residents may schedule a maintenance request for more frequent filter changes, or residents who have access to their filters may also pick up a filter from the community office and install it themselves.

Q: Perhaps it is due to the road repairs in progress on McArthur, but the lights at the intersection from the Commissary, Gas Station and CDC 1 are not timed correctly with the light at Reece. Add this to people trying to turn onto Reece from all of the side roads and people attempting left turns from side streets, it takes forever to make it off post. From CDC 1 it took me nearly 10 minutes to exit the Reece gate last week. Is there any type of traffic management that can happen to make the "rush hours" flow more smoothly/quickly?

A: There is currently an ongoing comprehensive traffic study being conducted by the company Gannet Fleming. This action is to analyze traffic flow patterns resulting from volume, speed and traffic control device intervention. The results of this study will be used to maximize throughput and safety for the entire installation. The majority of this study will be completed by January. The data will be used to identify and mitigate problem areas, which we anticipate will include this particular intersection.



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Q: What is the possibility of Rockenbach Road getting side walks for the children/ people who have to walk to school on that road? Trying to cross at Cooper and Rockenbach to the school is a nightmare no crossing guards until right before school starts.

A: The crosswalks without crossing guards on them have traffic light stops. During school hours, we post officers near those intersections for speed enforcement. We have in place traffic speed mitigation devices to elicit voluntary compliance. As we get more devices this will help augment our limited resources.

Q: Can the Road sign at the VCC outside of the main gate please be moved back so it isn't sitting in the turn lane when one is trying to turn left onto 175?

A: Yes. That is the plan. Once we finish the Reese gate repaving that sign will be removed.

Q: As I am going down Rockenbach to leave the post in the afternoon past the middle school which has a 25 MPH zone, there are way too many people in a hurry going at excessive speeds, passing most of us up. We need MP presence there. At the area where people are expected to slow down to 25 as they exit the post? It seems apparent to me that they either can't read or that they thumb their nose up at the law. With all the speeders that I see, many fines could easily be distributed.

A: Thank you for highlighting our concerns voiced during our traffic safety campaigns. Every available safety enforcement asset we have is active every day. For example, officers run targeted enforcements in school zones with RADAR and LIDAR and we also employ automated volumetric and speed recording devices. Safety is our primary concern but we can't be everywhere. We encourage you to work with your community office and our community policing officer to point out areas of specific concern. We use their input for traffic safety council meetings which includes law enforcement, DPW and installation safety representatives for an integrated response. We have been and will continue to do these types of safety outreach initiatives. We use your input to develop enhanced enforcement efforts. Thanks for being part of the solution.

Q: What about gate safety? All it takes to get on base as a civilian is a name and address of a resident on Meade. That poses a major safety concern with stalkers, kidnappers, burglars, etc.

A: No one is allowed on Fort Meade without proper vetting. Non-DoD cardholders are requested to access through the Visitors Gate, where their ID cards are scanned against the federal NACI database and vehicles inspected as appropriate. If you know of an incident where any individual was allowed on without showing some form of identification please let us know the date / time / location and I will personally rectify the situation. The safety and security of our community is our number one priority.

Q: I live on Ft Meade and drive it daily. There are hundreds of deer prowling the post and in many cases I've stopped to keep from hitting them. I am also a hunter and I was told to contact the PMO to inquire about when the "sharpshooters" would be coming out to help reduce the deer population however the PMO had no idea. Is there any chance those of us who are certified Maryland bow/arrow hunters can hunt some of these deer as long as we're



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100-200 feet from any structure? There are numerous wooded areas where if we were allowed to hunt, the general post population would never know about it or have to witness the act of hunting. I can respect the fact that some people think hunting is barbaric but as mentioned earlier I'm more than willing to do it out of sight. For instance, the area between Costin Loop and the B/W parkway is a vast wooded area and full of deer. Any insight you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

A: We have authorized a highly professional and trained team from the USDA to conduct deer population management this fall. We will keep residents informed about when that will happen, but trust that we know there is an issue and are working to address it in a safe and humane manner.

Q: Can we please get an indoor play center for children and families? Maybe take the old exchange building and turn it into a fun place.

A: When the new PX is complete, the old PX will be torn down and serve as the parking lot for the new facility. Currently we do not have plans to build an indoor play facility mostly due to cost. However, we do offer plenty of fitness and health activities at our youth and teen centers. Both programs have received grants from the Boys and Girls Club of America to run Triple Play (fitness initiatives). We also offer aerobics, Nike Sparq. Additionally each neighborhood center has a children's room.

Q: How about posting the 3-5 year infrastructure plan? Like the gate and road repair/widening plan.

A: Updates for ongoing projects are often available in the Soundoff! and on the Fort George G. Meade Facebook. Please feel free to review the Web and the weekly newspaper for updates

Q: With Fort Meade becoming a Joint Base, why not see about bringing in some Life Fitness stationary bikes so Navy personnel can complete their physical readiness test without having to go to another base. per Navy instruction, the Precor bikes already at Gaffney gym are not permitted.

A: Despite our highly joint population, Fort Meade does not meet the criteria to become a Joint Base. Support for our Joint Service population is coordinated through Installation Support Agreements with tenant commands. I will reach out to our Navy Partner Commanders to determine if a physical fitness test bike solution can be reached. Thanks for the Question!

Q: Who is monitoring all the burned out street lights around the parade field and on the post? It is something that really needs to be done at night when they should be on and aren't. Also there is a downed street lamp post going up to the fountain. I have counted numerous lights not working along and around the parade field.

A: Please contact 301-677-1661 to report outages at the parade field. Outages in the housing areas are managed by the local housing manager.



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Q: I'm still not seeing the necessary traffic enforcement, especially in housing areas. I'm constantly seeing people speed through housing, talking and texting, running stop signs. Some of the worst offenders are commercial vehicles, pizza delivery, and newspaper delivery. Is there something that can be done before a young child is struck by a vehicle?

A: Thank you for highlighting our concerns voiced during our traffic safety campaigns. Every available safety enforcement asset we have is active every day. For example, officers run targeted enforcements in school zones with RADAR and LIDAR and we also employ automated volumetric and speed recording devices. Safety is our primary concern but we can't be everywhere. We encourage you to work with your community office and our community policing officer to point out areas of specific concern. We use their input for traffic safety council meetings which includes law enforcement, DPW and installation safety representatives for an integrated response. We have been and will continue to do these types of safety outreach initiatives. We use your input to develop enhanced enforcement efforts. Thanks for being part of the solution.

Q: Is there a single parent support group that includes the children?

A: Army Community Services conducts the Single Parent Support Group the second and fourth Mondays of every month. The location is the School Aged Services Building, 1900 Reece Road. Activities are provided for children. For more information, call 301-677-5590.

Q: Regarding Reece gate. Lights already exist to show which lanes are open to get through the gates, why aren't they used? It can be hard to see when a cone is put out to block a lane and I have seen long lines on one side with the other side open and the guard in the little hut so no one knows it is open. Why aren't the lights used?

A: Those lights were damaged by the installation of Automated Installation Entry. We have a work order in with DPW and are awaiting repair.

Q: Can the Road sign at the VCC outside of the main gate please be moved back so it isn't sitting in the turn lane when one is trying to turn left onto 175? Traffic leaving in the evening is bad enough and we're forced to sit in the middle lane when there is a green arrow turning left because that sign is there and we can't get into the turn lane.

A: If the sign is moved closer to the gate it will no longer identify the VCC entry point. Unfortunately there is no good location for the VCC sign and I am also frequently impacted by the problem. But as we are seeing, work on the Reece Rd intersection has begun, and once complete, there will no longer be a need for the mobile VCC entrance sign.

Q: There are at least three streetlights out on Taylor Avenue after it crosses Simmonds. Two are on the side of Taylor next to the DINFOS temporary classrooms and parking lot. The other is on the barracks side of Taylor. They've been out since at least the beginning of October. The area is popular for morning PT. I believe the lack of lighting on dark winter mornings constitutes a safety issue.

A: Please contact DPW at 301-677-1661 to report outages on the roadways. In the housing areas please contact your community manager.



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Q: There are several street / Bldg lights out around post. The Calvary Chapel has two lights that pose a safety hazard when leaving the chapel. There is a street light out in Muese Forest, on Anderson Loop.

A: Street lights in housing areas is documented and managed by each local community manager. You may find a list of community managers at meade.corviasmilitaryliving.com/contact-us. Please call to report your outage. Street lights in other areas, such as along roads on the Fort should be called in at 301-677-1661 or 1662 and the outage will be reported to BG&E for repair. Your feedback is very helpful.

Q: What is going to be done with Minol? Several families aren't using utilities because they're tired of paying more money every month. As a result these baselines are way off.

A: The Live Army Green Program is an Army-wide program to conserve energy. If you feel your utility usage rate is not being accurately captured, you need to request an audit through your neighborhood office. Minol is just a contractor. The utility provider, and the one who does the metering, is BGE.

Q: Would command please make it a priority to REPLACE ALL of the registers in the Meade Commissary? They seem to be on the "fritz" a LOT, plus the cashiers are not able to use them as they are intended to be used, due to broken parts on them. I've spoken to management several times and they say it's not a priority of the command here.

A: This issue will be addressed with the commissary manager.

Q: Is there a plan to widen or make the intersection at Reece & MacAuthur more user friendly?

A: Yes, improvements to the intersection are included in our roadway and ACP military construction plan. We are currently working with installation management command for funding. Once we get approval, we will have to get a design.

Q: Will Reece Road be widened from the school (off post) to the intersection of 175?

A: There is an ongoing effort to repave and repair that portion of the road beginning in early 2015. Additionally, Fort Meade is negotiating with the State to transfer or lease that section of road, so they may provide additional improvements, which may include widening.

Q: When is the new PX opening? Is there a schedule someplace that tells people which rotating kiosks are scheduled to come to the other PX and when?

A: The PX is working diligently to open as soon as possible with a targeted date of Black Friday (NOV 28.) Management is going to assess the situation next week, and the final opening date will be advertised on Fort Meade's information outlets including Facebook and the installation's Web site. We currently do not have a schedule for our kiosks, but we can look into creating one; especially, for the holidays.



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Q: Can we have on base child care providers that provide hourly and date night child care? I called Child Youth Services and they stated they do not have this type of program anymore. The at home child care providers only offer full-time daycare during the day.

A: We do still offer hourly care at CDC 1. Please call 301-677-1146. Child Youth and School Services are looking to resume Parents' Night Out, and we are continuing to recruit Family Child Care Providers to do hourly and evening care. For anyone interested in becoming an FCC provider, please contact CYSS at 301-677-1160.

Q: Could we get more speed limit signs near Pershing Hill please? Plenty of drivers are speeding down the hill after dropping off in the morning.

A: Thank you for voicing your concerns, during school hours there is increased officer presence to enforce traffic safety. To request speed limit signs you can contact DPW. Also, the Fort is also enhancing law enforcement capabilities with electronic devices.

Q: With the opening of the Llewellyn Avenue gate for longer hours what efforts will be made to control traffic here? For employees who work right inside this gate it's already very hazardous. The speed limit is not obeyed, people do not always stop for pedestrians in the cross walk, they fly through the parking lot as the sign that say no thru-way is completely ignored, and waiting for someone to let you out at the end of the day can be ridiculous.

A: More law enforcement will be added to make it a 12-hour gate while Reece is closed. This will assist in ensuring traffic safety is compiled with during the hours of gate operation.

Q: With moving the perimeter fences, has any thought gone into recreating the running trail? If the trail was in sight of the fence, you would have more eyes watching the fence for security, it would maintain the perimeter trail, it would fill a void-the trail has been greatly missed since the golf course closed, and a trail would increase the avenues of fitness.

A: The movement of the fence line along 175 is temporary (24 to 36 months.) After that time, the fence line will be moved back closer to its original location once the improvements at the intersections at Mapes and Reece are completed. Regarding running trails, there is no location to establish a running trail on Fort Meade. To make it safer for runners on the installation, yesterday I signed Policy Memo 68 that identifies protected running areas on the Fort and procedures that individuals need to follow during physical training hours. The entire policy will be posted on the Fort Meade web site this week, and there will also be a story in this week's edition of the Fort Meade Soundoff on Thursday.

Q: What is the phone number to the management over Corvias??? I have had multiple issues with work requests not being taken seriously and now I have one which only came about when those people were here yesterday switching the electric in my attic and it's a safety hazard/mold issue and I am very allergic to mold (found out the hard way).

A: You may reach Corvias management at 410-672-4570.



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Q: The new shopping carts in the commissary are terrible. Once they are about halfway to completely full, they really have a mind of their own and are very difficult to steer. It is unfortunate that they are fairly new, but can they be serviced to work properly?

A: The newer carts DECA ordered were defective. DECA is currently working with the contractor to get new carts. There is no timetable for when the carts will be fixed.

Q: Similar to the question about having an indoor play facility for children -- can the existing facilities simply have expanded resources and activities for children and their families? For example, the two gyms have racquetball and basketball courts, but children can't use them. The housing community centers have indoor basketball courts, but only housing residents can use them. Want to play ping pong? The Youth Center has a table but the facility is closed on the weekends and has age restrictions. Is there anywhere that a teenager can use a treadmill, elliptical or conduct any kind of weight training?

A: Currently, there is weight equipment at the Teen Center. Additionally, at the gyms, children aged 13-18 can use the equipment if they are accompanied by a parent. We can certainly look at other options for this age group to include resuming Saturday hours at the Youth Center.

Q: Can motorcycle parking spots be added to more places on post? It seems more practical to have designated spots where more than one can park, than to have motorcycles scattered throughout the lot. It would also remove some of the risk of a motorcycle being hit because someone thought it was an open spot.

A: Thank you for the recommendation. We think it's a good idea and we'll look for ways to incorporate more motorcycle parking spaces near AAFES and the Commissary.